## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS SHERMAN DIVISION

Jason Pruitt, : Civil Action No.: 4:19-cv-53

Plaintiff,

v.

Virtuoso Sourcing Group, LLC,

Defendant.

**COMPLAINT** 

JURY

For this Complaint, Plaintiff, Jason Pruitt, by undersigned counsel, states as follows:

## **JURISDICTION**

- 1. This action arises out of Defendant's repeated violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* (the "FDCPA").
  - 2. Supplemental jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that Defendant transacts business in this District and a substantial portion of the acts giving rise to this action occurred in this District.

### **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff, Jason Pruitt ("Plaintiff"), is an adult individual residing in Sherman, Texas, and is a "consumer" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 5. Defendant Virtuoso Sourcing Group, LLC ("Virtuoso"), is a Colorado business entity with an address of 4500 Cherry Creek Drive South, Suite 300, Glendale, Colorado 80246, operating as a collection agency, and is a "debt collector" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

#### ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS

#### A. The Debt

- 6. Plaintiff allegedly incurred a financial obligation (the "Debt") to an original creditor (the "Creditor").
- 7. The Debt arose from services provided by the Creditor which were primarily for family, personal or household purposes, which meets the definition of a "debt" under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 8. The Debt was purchased, assigned or transferred to Virtuoso for collection, or Virtuoso was employed by the Creditor to collect the Debt.
- 9. Defendant attempted to collect the Debt and, as such, engaged in "communications" as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

### **B.** Virtuoso Engages in Harassment and Abusive Tactics

- 10. Within the last year, Virtuoso contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect the Debt.
- 11. On or about June 29, 2018, Virtuoso called Plaintiff twenty (20) times within ten (10) minutes.

## **C.** Plaintiff Suffered Actual Damages

- 12. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer actual damages as a result of Defendant's unlawful conduct.
- 13. As a direct consequence of Defendant's acts, practices and conduct, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from humiliation, anger, anxiety, emotional distress, fear, frustration and embarrassment.

## COUNT I VIOLATIONS OF THE FDCPA 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.

- 14. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 15. Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d in that Defendant engaged in behavior the natural consequence of which was to harass, oppress, or abuse Plaintiff in connection with collection of the Debt.
- 16. Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(5) in that Defendant caused a phone to ring repeatedly and engaged Plaintiff in telephone conversations with the intent to annoy and harass Plaintiff.
- 17. Defendant's conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692f in that Defendant used unfair and unconscionable means to collect the Debt.
- 18. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA.
  - 19. Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of Defendant's violations.

# VIOLATIONS OF THE TEXAS DEBT COLLECTION ACT TEX. FIN. CODE ANN. § 392, et al.

- 20. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
  - 21. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by Tex. Fin. Code Ann. § 392.001(1).
- 22. Defendant are each a "debt collector" and a "third party debt collector" as defined by Tex. Fin. Code Ann. § 392.001(6) and (7).
- 23. Defendant caused a telephone to ring repeatedly, with the intent to annoy or abuse Plaintiff, in violation of Tex. Fin. Code Ann. § 392.302(4).

24. Plaintiff is entitled to injunctive relief and actual damages pursuant to Tex. Fin. Code Ann. § 392.403(a)(1) and (2), and to remedies under Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code § 17.62 pursuant to Tex. Fin. Code Ann. § 392.404(a).

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against Defendant:

- 1. Actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1);
- 2. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(2)(A);
- Costs of litigation and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.
  § 1692k(a)(3);
- 4. Injunctive relief pursuant to Tex. Fin. Code Ann. § 392.403(a)(1);
- 5. Actual damages pursuant to Tex. Fin. Code Ann. § 392.403(a)(2);
- 6. Remedies under Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code § 17.62 pursuant to Tex. Fin. Code Ann. § 392.404(a);
- 7. Punitive damages; and
- 8. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

#### TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

Dated: January 24, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

By /s/ Jody B. Burton

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